

Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship Sunday, July 4, 2021

Pastor: Bruce Farrell Ministers: All the Faithful Members

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org

*Please stand if you are able. Congregation, please speak the words in **bold**.

PRELUDE Tara Zimmerman

WELCOME (Ringing of the Bell)

Ringing of the bell in memory of Thomas Louwerse

ANTHEM The Battle Hymn of the Republic
Roberto Marti

*CALL TO WORSHIP [from today's texts]

Pastor: We are God's people, called by His Name, and surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

People: We come to humble ourselves, to pray, and to seek Your face.

Pastor: You are the Teacher, full of all Wisdom and all authority. You hear us from heaven.

People: We come to adore You, Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfector of our faith.

Pastor: You work remarkable miracles and healing among us.

People: With joy, and for us, You endured the cross, scorning its shame, bringing forgiveness for our sins.

Pastor: And now You are sitting at the right hand of the throne of God!

All: May we shout this best news now and to the ends of the earth.

Glory to You, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer!

*HYMN

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

¹ Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ, our Head and Cornerstone – Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one; Holy Zion's help forever and our confidence alone.

² To this temple, where we call You, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay. With Your steadfast lovingkindness, hear Your people as we pray. And Your fullest benediction shed in all its brightest ray.

- ³ Here bestow on all Your servants what we ask of You to gain. What we gain from You, forever with the blessed to retain. And hereafter in Your glory, evermore with You to reign.
- ⁴ Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son, Praise and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one: One in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CONFESSION

Call to Confession [Mark 6:12]

[The disciples] went out and preached that people should repent.

Responsive Confession [Today's texts]

Pastor: We don't humble ourselves, pray, and seek You.

People: Our faith is lacking.

Pastor: We, too, have taken offense at Your messengers.

People: We are so easily ensnared by sin.

Pastor: We've a tendency to keep our baggage rather than throwing off all that hinders us.

People: We have little endurance, little perseverance, and certainly not joy, in the face of hardship. Pastor: You send us out, give us a race, a journey, but we sit at home making excuses about why we can't go.

People: And when we do go, we can dawdle rather than run the race You have given us.

Pastor: We keep the awesome Good News to ourselves while those You gave Your life for languish under demons, sin, illness, poverty, and oppression.

Assurance of Pardon [2 Chronicles 7:14]

If my people, who are called by My Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

SCRIPTURE: 2 Chronicles 7:14; Mark 6:1-13; Hebrews 12:1-2

SONG O Lord, You're Beautiful

[Sing twice]

O, Lord, You're beautiful. Your face is all I seek. For when Your eyes are on this child, Your grace abounds to me.

Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of Your glory and grace.

SERMON: Founders

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING [from Mark 6:8]

These were [Jesus'] instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no bag, no money in your belts."

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer

and for our nation

Lord of the nations, guide this nation by Your Holy Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to every single person the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things, give us faith in You, that our nation may bring glory to Your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your Name.

Your kingdom come; Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN

Christ for the World! We Sing

- 1 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with loving zeal-the poor and them that mourn, the faint and overborne, sinsick and sorrow-worn, for Christ to heal.
- ² Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with fervent prayer-the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.
 - ³ Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with one accord-with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
- ⁴ Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with joyful song-the newborn souls whose days, reclaimed from error's ways, inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

BENEDICTION [Today's texts]

Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, throw off everything that hinders you and the sin that so easily entangles. Run with perseverance the race marked out for you. Jesus sends you out and gives you authority over impure spirits. Take nothing for the journey. Go humbly in His Name and preach that people should repent. Anoint many sick people with oil for their healing.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and the POSTLUDE

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Prayer for our Nation adapted from The Lutheran Book of Worship.